

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/623,892

Examiner

Manish S. Shah

Applicant(s)

NAKAZAWA ET AL.

Art Unit

2853

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to _____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 22 July 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

1. The primary reason for allowance of claims 1-11 is that applicant's claimed invention includes a recording medium being substantially transparent for recording an image through image forming processes employing an ink jetting method including a diffuse transmission density of a first area, being a part of the recording medium on which no image is formed is in range of 0.45- 0.15 and Q-factor of the first area is in the range of 1.50 to 1.00; and the recording medium is so constituted that a Q-factor of second area being a part of the recording medium on which an image is formed so as to adjust a diffuse transmission density at 1.00, is in a range of 1.20- 1.00. It is this limitation, expressed in the claimed combination not found, taught or suggested in the prior art, that makes these claims allowable over the prior art.

2. The primary reason for allowance of claims 12-20 is that applicant's claimed invention includes a method for recording a medical image onto recording medium, being substantially transparent including the steps of forming the medical image onto recording medium through image forming processes employing an ink jetting method, wherein a diffuse transmission density of a first area, being a part of the recording medium on which no image is formed is in range of 0.45- 0.15 and Q-factor of the first area is in the range of 1.50 to 1.00; and the recording medium is so constituted that a

Q-factor of second area being a part of the recording medium on which an image is formed so as to adjust a diffuse transmission density at 1.00, is in a range of 1.20- 1.00. It is this limitation, expressed in the claimed combination not found, taught or suggested in the prior art, that makes these claims allowable over the prior art

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Pertinent Prior Art

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

(1) Honda (# US 6474807) discloses a recording medium for ink jet printer including a support and an ink absorbing layer, wherein ink absorbing layer are provided on both side of support (column: 2, line: 45-50) and recording medium is substantially transparent (column: 6, line: 15-35). They also disclose that the recording medium includes binder (column: 7, line: 35-65).

(2) Azizi et al. (# US 6391954) discloses high clarity image bearing sheet including transparent sheet is provided toner receptive coating having a low density yellow Q factor value at least 2 (see Abstract).

(3) Obayashi et al. (# US 2003/0175450) disclose an ink jet recording sheet including reflective support having a porous ink absorbing layer on both the side of the support (see Abstract; [0046]-[0058], [0107]).

(4) Ohbayashi et al. (# US 6613419) disclose an ink jet recording sheet including a support having a porous ink absorbing layer on both the side of the support (see Abstract; column: 2, line: 55-67, column: 7, line: 3-15).

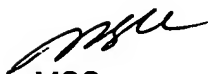
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Manish S. Shah whose telephone number is (571) 272-2152. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00am-3:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen D. Meier can be reached on (571) 272-2149. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Manish S. Shah
Examiner
Art Unit 2853


MSS
10/17/04